

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please add the following new paragraph after the title beginning on page 1, line 3 as follows:

This application is a continuation of International Application No. PCT/JP03/01451 filed on February 12, 2003, and claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §§119 and/or 365 to 2002-035878 filed in Japan on February 13, 2002, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference.

Please replace the heading beginning on page 1, line 7 with the following amended heading:

BACKGROUND BACKGROUND

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 10 and ending on page 8, line 16, with the following amended paragraph:

As shown in FIG.2 in an enlarged scale, the tapered nozzles 2a and a gas introducing tube 3-1 are attached to the header 2-1. The nozzle 2a of the header 2-1 is inserted into the front end of the tube in group 1a. The header 2-1 is connected to the gas supplying device 4a. As shown in FIG.1 (a), a header 2-2 for the group of following tubes is connected to the gas supply device ~~4b~~ 4b through a gas introducing pipe 3-1. Therefore, in the state shown in FIG.2, gas does not flow into the gas introducing pipe 3-1.